

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Shinoda et al.  
Serial No.: to be assigned  
Filed: concurrently herewith  
For: *WET FLUE GAS DESULFURIZER  
AND OXYGEN-CONTAINING GAS  
BLOWING DEVICE FOR USE  
THEREIN*

Date: December 28, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application and claim fee calculation, please enter the following amendment:

**In the Title:**

Please delete the title.  
Please insert therefor the following new title.  
-- OXYGEN-CONTAINING GAS BLOWING DEVICES --

**In the Abstract:**

Please delete the abstract.  
Please insert therefor the following new abstract.  
-- An oxygen-containing blowing device for use in a wet flue gas desulfurizer for removing SO<sub>2</sub> from combustion exhaust gas by wet desulfurization includes a fluid reservoir for an absorbing fluid equipped with a delivery pipe for discharging the absorbing fluid so that its discharge end is open in said fluid reservoir, and an oxygen feed nozzle for injecting an oxygen-containing gas disposed in the area of the discharged stream in the discharge end of the delivery pipe. --

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**In the Specification:**

On page 1, prior to the Title of the Invention section, please insert the following:

**-- Cross-Reference to Related Applications**

The present application is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/185,803 filed November 4, 1998, allowed, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. --

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel Claims 1-5.

11. (Amended) A wet flue gas desulfurizer equipped with an oxygen-containing gas blowing device as claimed in claim 6 [any of claims 6 to 10].

**Remarks**

The present application is a divisional application of Serial No. 09/185,803 filed November 4, 1998. These claims generally encompass oxygen-containing gas blowing devices.

Substantive examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Smith  
Registration No. 40,820

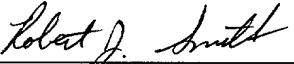
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Robert J. Smith

Date of Signature: December 29, 2000